

LEMANU P. S. MAUGA GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT

TALAUEGA E. V. ALE

Telephone: (684) 633-4116 Fax: (684) 633-2289

January 25, 2021

GENERAL MEMORANDUM NO. 032 – 21

To: Secretary of Samoan Affairs, CEOs, Presidents, Executive Directors,

Directors, Agency and Office Heads

From: Governor

Subject: Repatriation/Medicaid Charters

As the process to repatriate our stranded residents is in progress, a few issues must be addressed and clarified regarding repatriation and Medicaid Charter flights:

- 1. Passengers traveling from Pago Pago to Honolulu on future Medicaid Charter flights shall not be considered priority to return on scheduled Repatriation flights. The Repatriation flights are specifically designed for residents of our Territory who are stranded off-island, and priority will be given to those who have been stranded for the longest period of time.
- 2. Repatriation flights are not intended for the purpose of leisure travel and visiting family in American Samoa with the intention to return on the next scheduled Medicaid charter flight. Outbound Medicaid Charter flights are for residents seeking medical treatment in the United States, and any remaining seats not used by Medicaid patients will be priced using the cost-share formula provided by Medicaid and sold to the public on a first-come, firstserved basis.
- Passengers who are attempting to use American Samoa as a transit point to neighboring Pacific Island countries will not be granted the privilege to travel on our Repatriation flights.

American Samoa's borders will continue to remain closed until the spread of COVID-19 is no longer a threat to our Territory.

C

cc: Honorable Talauega E. V. Ale, Lieutenant Governor Tuimavave T. Laupola, Chief of Staff